

OTE 85-6955

November 7, 1985

Mr. John A. Scali ABC News, Inc. 1717 DeSales Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Mr. Scali:

Thank you for agreeing to address our Advanced Intelligence Seminar. Your session is scheduled for Wednesday, November 13, 1985, from 10:15 to 11:30 a.m. Your presentation is titled "The Role of the Media in a Democratic Society." Please plan to speak for 30 to 50 minutes, take a break, and then lead a discussion of the issues with Seminar participants.

Participants in this two and one-half week Advanced Intelligence Seminar consists of 16 - 20 senior intelligence officers selected from each of the major components within the Agency. They represent a broad range of educational backgrounds and professional experience. The Seminar is designed to expose officers to alternative viewpoints and perspectives on intelligence and its role in a democratic society. The following are some of the issues we hope you will address during your presentation:

As minicam, simulcast and satellite transmission capabilities continue to grow, the interval between news discovery continues to shrink. Under these conditions, what criteria do the networks use to hold or broadcast reports?

- a. What do you see as the ultimate responsibility of broadcast news vis-a-vis the security implications of broadcasting all news "fit to be broadcast"?
- b. Are there mechanisms for retracting (correcting) errors made in reporting as further developments take place?

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- c. Given the recent publicity over the role of media and terrorism (i.e., platform given to terrorists in the Athens/Beirut hijacking) are there any mechanisms under consideration to prevent these incidents from being turned into media events? What restrictions (if any) should be made on media accessibility to events (i.e., Grenada invasion)?
- d. Is T.V. news a victim of the Intelligence Community, on whom it must rely in certain cases for the content of its reporting?
- e. How does the media industry reconcile its need for profit vs. public service?

The Seminar will be held at the Chamber of Commerce Building, 4600 North Fairfax Drive, Arlington, Virginia. Enclosed is a map of the area for your reference. Parking spaces 2 and 3 at the rear of the building are reserved for our guest lecturers. The parking spaces can be approached only by turning right from Wilson Boulevard onto Wakefield Street. If you prefer, you can take Metro's orange line to the Ballston station which is four short blocks from our building. On your arrival, go to the second floor reception area and someone from the staff will bring you to the Seminar room.

If you have any questions, please Course Director, or the		•
the	training assistant,	
	Sincerely, .	
	Director of	
	Training and Education	

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